

November 1968





one shilling

POINT THREE is the monthly magazine of Toc H

The

Fellowship

four

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Service

points

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Fairmindedness

of Toc H



The Kingdom of God



November 1968

On the Cover-

We were tempted to headline this photo "Michael meets his Waterloo" because it shows two-year-old Michael Ainsley enjoying last year's bonfire organised by the Waterloo Manor Branch at Garforth. [Photo: Wakefield Express.

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point three

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Letters and articles are welcomed but the opinions expressed therein are not necessarily those of the Toc H Movement

viewpoint

if this be sacrilege

To me one of the most sentimental of all hyrono (and that's saying something) is the one which starts "We love the place, O God". and it's nauscating, not only because of its contimentality but because it replaces the waship of the living God by the worship of a

The temptation to regard a beautiful place, whather natural or man-made, as sacred in itself is always strong. But what makes lona, for instance, sacred is not just the beauty of the scenery and the age of the stones of which the Abbey is built. It is much more, surely, the on-going life of the place, the sense of community one experiences.

In saying this I am certainly not arguing against beauty. I am certainly not commending the traditional non-conformist answer to the problem, which is to make ecclesiastical buildings so ugly that no one could possibly love them. The point I am making is simply that to worship a building is to enshrine the past and to ignore the present.

And this is a temptation that most of us feel at some time or other. If we have ever enjoyed a significant experience in a particular place we are reluctant to see that place in any way changed. The Bible, however, sees the people of God as a people on pilgrimage, living in tents, open to new experiences. responsive to the promptings of the Spirit; not ignoring the past, but not chained to it either. This metaphor of the pilgrimage underlines the fact that though we may live in the light of the past we cannot opt out of the present. Experience can't be fossilized or preserved in aspic. It's a continuing process.

What has all this to do with Toc H? I think it has a great deal to do with us. For we have our "holy places". We have buildings which

have come to hold a special place in our affections, buildings which we are in danger of preserving merely as memorials to the past. And this temptation is at its strongest-dare one say it?-at Talbot House in Poperinge.

When I returned from a recent visit to the Old House someone asked me whether it was neat and tidy. I replied, almost without thinking, "Yes, too neat and tidy". And the more I think of it the more true this seems. If the Old House is to be anything other than a museum it is important that it be a real centre for contact between English and Belgians, that it be a place where young people can have significant experiences and insights of their own, rather than being asked, pointlessly, to share the experiences their grandfathers had

I suppose it would be regarded as sacrilegious to suggest that the Old House ought to have a juke box, or at least a table-tennis table. If this be sacrilege, so be it. But it would be nice to see a breath of the 1960's blowing through the house. I would like to think that those who visit the House catch something of the atmosphere of Toc H today, not merely the atmosphere of the Great War. To preserve the House unchanged in every detail, as the widowed Queen Victoria preserved her husband's rooms, may perhaps give the dead some kind of spurious immortality, but for a building to remain alive it must change.

The temptation to worship a building, whether it be the Old House or Dor Knap, a Mark or a Branch room, is very real. But our calling is to worship the God who dwells, not in a single Holy Place, but everywhere, and who speaks through the present as well as

through the past.

K.P-B.

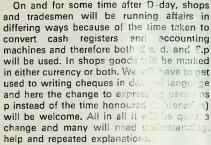
getting ready for D-day

When the decimal currency becomes an accomplished fact, in just over two years' time, many people are going to need help, help which Toc H should be able to give, suggests Finance Secretary, Keith Rea.

1969—the year that the halfpenny vanishes and a seven-sided coin helps to wear a hole in your pocket.

We have already got used to the 5 pence and 10 pence pieces but things will get more involved as we approach decimalisation D-day on 15th February 1971. To most of us, I suppose, it will be a nice change and once we have got used to the idea, we can revert to the old British pastime of watching the champions of free and nationalised enterprises explaining why they have to round their prices up rather than down, to meet other additional costs. It will be all part of the inflationary way of life to which we have become accustomed. In short, there will be no skin off our noses because of decimalisation.

But will this apply to all our friends in the community? Surely not. Messing about with money may be fine for those with a margin, but for those who have none it may be much more difficult. Old people and many others may very well feel a lack of security because the well loved coins are going and the fact that there will be only 100 pennies to the £ instead of 240 will be puzzling for a while unless help is given.



Toc H can plan its role NOV.

Too H and planning do not often go well together. But here is something we can do which is specific, where there is a whole Government Board set up to help us and we are early in the field. Why not therefore put decimalisation on your next business or executive agenda? If you decide to go further you must then:—

- Survey your community and decide which of your friends will need help. This information will be gradually accumulated but may be expected to include:—
 - (a) the aged (particularly those living away from sources of information).
 - (b) handicapped folk (e.g. blind or hard of hearing).
 - (c) those involved in the process of rehabilitation and those of subnormal intelligence endeavouring to lead an independent life.
- The Decimal Currency Board is already in contact with the National Old People's Welfare Council, so your local Old People's Committee may need Toc H help.
- 3. Get all possible information about the mechanics of decimalisation.







- (a) The Decimal Currency Board have a number of useful pamphlets including a regular newsletter. The booklet called, "Three Years To Go—Facts and Forecasts", price 1/-d. each, or 25 for £1. is recommended.
- (b) Order souvenir sets of bronze coins (½p, 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p) from the bank, explaining that they are needed for training purposes.
- Get acquainted with the decimal time-table, which is:—
 - (a) 1st August 1969: the halfpenny is no longer legal tender.



- (b) October 1969: the 50 pence sevensided coin will replace the 10/- note.
- (c) 1st January 1970: the half-crown will no longer be legal tender.
- (d) 15th February 1971: D-day: the ½ρ,1ρ and 2ρ coins come into circulation.
- Decide which member or officer will be responsible for heading up the decimalisation training project.

The Editor will be pleased to hear of any interesting ways in which Toc H is helping. Here is a peg on which to hang Friendship.

*Obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office or through bookshops.

The illustrations on these pages show some of the new British Coinage, but note





welcome point

The following new Branch was formally recognised by the Central Executives at their September meeting:

Croydon (Joint).

The following Branches elected new members during September:

- 7—Dalton-in-Furness (W.A.)
- 3—Uckfield.
- 2-Broughton Astley, Central, Kidsgrove (W.A.), Looe, Market Rasen.
- 1—Alfreton, Bailiff Bridge, Blean, Broadstairs & St. Peter's. Hallam, Haywards Heath, Ladhope, Leominster, Lyndhurst (W.A.), Malvern, Mark III, Milford-on-Sea (W.A.), Morecambe, Moseley (Joint), Newsome, Paddock (W.A.), Rawthorpe, Rushden, Wellingborough, Willesborough.
- 40 new members were elected during the month, to whom we extend a warm welcome.

personality point

Michael Duff, lately a Marksman at Prideaux House, Hackney, has been appointed Warden of Mark II, St. George's Square, London, S.W.1.

W. ("Bill") Burton has resigned as H.A.C. in the Northern Area, an appointment he has held since 1964.

J. B. ("Johnnie") MacMillan, for the past nine years a member of the Western Regional staff, has moved to Leeds as a member of the Northern Regional team. His address is 20, St. Anne's Road, Leeds, 6.

The Rev. John O. Alleyne, Western Region, is now living at the Toc H Centre, St. Andrew's Road, Montpelier, Bristol 6. Tel: 0272 43592.

The Rev. A. W. Stonton, H.A.C. Southern Area, has moved to "Tolimoor", 102, Abbotsbury Road, Weymouth, Dorset.

- HAROLD BRAMLEY -

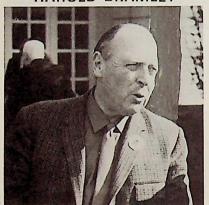


Photo: Skegg Blanchard

As this goes to press we are deeply distressed to learn of the sudden death of Harold Bramley of the Midland Region staff. Harold joined the staff in September 1967 having been a member since 1940. He will be remembered particularly for his determination and leadership qualities as Chairman of the East Midlands Area. Our sympathy is extended to his wife and family.



WINNIE ADAMS RETIRES

Winnie Adams is a remarkable woman. At the end of October she retired ages 32 years' service on the Women's Assertiation staff, during which time, in her own words, she had "done everything from washing the floor rebalancing the books, and enjoyed every minute of it". Throughout the war years she managed the lunch club at 42 Crutched Friars and despite repeated bombing (one fell on the house next door) there was never a day when meals could not be served. Her reputation around Tower Hill for getting a little more for a little less as she trundled her basket on wheels around the shops is widely talked about and she proudly boasted to Point Three,"in spite of everything we never closed".

Her versatility will not be easy to match at Headquarters and much of the time she worked single-handed. A wonderful surprise retiring present from her husband, a retired musician, is a round-the-world trip to New Zealand, taking in many exotic places en route.

We asked her to confide her wishes for the Movement and she confessed that she would like to see Toc H involving itself unreservedly in major issues. "It's about time we got our feet back on the ground." she said.

We all wish her well in retirement.

LIFE BEHIND BARS

Information for the continuation of this series is still being collected but we regret we are unable to print an article this month. Further contributions will, however, be appearing from the December issue onwards.

the day I dined off silver plate



Marjorie Berry, Chairman of Toc H Women's Association, writes about the 10 days she spent, together with the chairmen of 14 other British women's associations, in Bremen, Hanover and Berlin at the invitation of the German government.

We were met at Bremenhaven by Frau Paul who was to be our German guide on the tour and who had been responsible for all the arrangements. From that moment experience followed upon experience in quick succession; lunch at the café in the Market Square at Bremen: a reception at the Town Hall by Senator Dr. Graf and the British Consul: and a visit next day to the children's village at Worpswede where a community of orphaned children live in seven modern houses.

Later that day a visit to the artists' village where we saw the work of famous German artists, both traditional and modern, and lunched at a picturesque café on the edge of a wood. The hot, sunny afternoon was spent on a coach tour of the beautiful countryside on the way to Verden. Mayne Elson and Eric Barrington greeted us at the Toc H Club where Mayne gave us a talk on the work of Toc H Clubs in Germany.

The next day we travelled to Hanover for an afternoon of sightseeing. The highlight of this day's programme was dinner at the garden restaurant "Georgenhof", a former manor house, where we had a private room, panelled in dark oak imaginatively offset by pale pink linen and William Morris design curtains. We saw a performance of Shakespeare's "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" in the illuminated gardens of the castle of Herrenhausen, former home of the Dukes of Brunswick.

Thursday's programme began with a visit to the Volkswagen factory. A tour of Hanover was followed by a reception at the Town Hall where we met a woman M.P. who spoke on the division of Berlin. At the "Maschsee", an open air café beside a lake, we met the chairman of German women's organisations and each British chairman had to give a short explanation of her own organisation.

On Friday we flew from Hanover to Berlin Templehof where we were met by members of Deutscher Frauen Ring who presented each member of our party with a rose before escorting us to our hotel. At the hotel an invitation awaited us to lunch with Frau Schultz, wife of the Regierender Burgermeister of Berlin, at the Guest House of the city, and for the first time in my life I dined off silver plate.

International problem

A visit to the Town Hall followed and a very interesting speech was made by the Assistant Mayor who enlarged upon the present situation in Berlin. He pointed out that Berlin is an international problem and that the precondition of any improvement is the lessening of tension, but there are obstacles created by psychological problems. In the evening we were the guests of the Mayor of Berlin at a performance of "The Masked Ball" by Verdi.



The Russian watch tower at the entrance to the Berlin Corridor, where armed guards scrutinise all who enter or leave through powerful binoculars.

Photo Colin Campbell

We visited the International Centre where seminars are arranged for students from underdeveloped countries on such problems as rural planning for Far Eastern countries. Asmall country may send one delegate but a larger like India can send three. On the way to the Centre we toured the bomb-devastated areas of Berlin near the Wall. Now the object of our tour became apparent. It was for us to see the Wall in the hope that through our various associations we might enlist the active sympathies of a quarter of a million British women.

As nothing was planned for Sunday I went to the Toc H Club in Berlin where I was shown all over the house by Angus Laing, the warden, who said how much he appreciated the help and co-operation given to the club by the Ministry of Defence.

International friendship

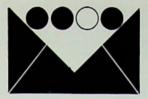
Because one member of our party was the Chairman of the Co-operative Women's Guild we received an invitation from her opposite number in East Berlin to visit them. The Guild is the sole remaining women's organisation in East Berlin. Going through "checkpoint Charlie" was a nerve-wracking experience and the Co-operative Women's Guild were waiting for us with a coach when we passed through. We were asked what we would like to see and among the requests was the Pergamon Museum, a school and an old folks' home. After the tour eve were taken to lunch at a large modern as e-where lunch took four hours to serve anight we were entertained at a cocktail Judy by the British Consul, Mr. Geoffrey Editeds. There I met Peter Johnson of the B.B.C., who to i me that he had once lived in Mark Mill, Ketnington.

On our last day we visite a chios. Charlottenburg, a museum of court beauty, and attended a dinner given by the Berlin D.F.R. Once again we had to explain the objects of our various associations to the sixty women who were our hostesses. The dinner was held in the Europa Centre in a restaurant similar to that in our Post Office Tower in London, and proved a most fitting end to a memorable ten days.

The object of the trip was primarily to foster international friendship. It not only achieved this but also gave each member of the party a further knowledge of the aims of the other organisations represented on the tour.

FLAGGED OUT!

Somebody in Hackney has a thing about Union Jacks. During the past nine months three have been stolen from the flag pole at Mark III, Hackney, Each time the "flagomaniae" creeps in under cover of darkness, cuts the rope, and dashes off with the flag. "We don't know what to make of it", says Padre Gualter de Mello, the Mark Warden, "but as replacements cost about £3 a time I appeal to those responsible to bring our flags back".



Letters are welcomed. But the Editor reserves the right to use extracts as space permits.

Is Toc H really a fellowship?

At our Branch meeting we discussed Les Wheatley's recent article and came to the conclusion that Toc H is really a fellowship and not "a place of entertainment for like-minded men". Although we often disagree on many points, we are like-minded men in our love for Toc H.

If Les has found only entertainment in the Branches he has visited then surely that is the fault of the programme planners. It is the fellowship I find within Too H which binds me to it. When the weekly meetings become mady an evening's entertainment with fait "limited fellowship" it is time for all the Branch members to look to their trails. Incidentally, on the evening we had our discussion, a visitor remarked the end of the meeting how good the fellowship had been. He said nothing about having been entertained!

People or pennies?

Dob Washins

At a time when many individuals and committees are planning the future of our Movement in its integrated form, dare one hope that some central guidance will emerge as to what constitutes an appropriate Toc H job?

Withycombe, Devon.

Over the last 30 years one can detect a definite change in the nature of our service, passing through clear phases. In the beginning a job was a person-toperson matter, costing nothing but time, thought, and compassion. Later it was realised that some jobs could be done better if a slight expense was incurred and "jobs' funds" came into being so that expenses would not fall on individual members who could ill afford them. Phase three, as many Branch accounts show, passes off as a Toc H job the mere raising of funds for other bodies to spend on their good works. What is phase four going to be, and could it destroy the spirit of our Movement?

At the risk of appearing to take a retrograde step, can we not get back to

the person-to-person approach and devote to such jobs the time and energy now spent on money-raising? Who knows, in this day and age the startling conception of a Movement not much interested in money, beyond the basic minimum required to finance its own affairs, might have enough appeal to give an upturn to that depressing membership graph.

Howard Hall

Westgate-on-Sea.

Mini-bus wedding

Under this heading Gordon Minshull reported the purchase by Clacton Branch of a mini-bus with electric hoist for wheelchairs, and slated the government because they had to pay £300 purchase tax. Had they called the vehicle an ambulance and had the word "Ambulance" been painted on its side it would have been exempt from purchase tax. This also ensures a greater degree of courtesy from other road users, and you are given the right of way, which is most helpful when one remembers that because one's passengers are disabled one has to travel at a slower speed.

Ken Western

Surbiton, Surrey.

What's in a name?

The September number of *Point Three* carried letters suggesting that Toc H be given a new name. Having been a member for 40 odd years I know that we have been through all this before.

The "innkeeper" himself had a big hand in finding the name "Toc H", and I hope it will be remembered that he too coined the phrase "To Conquer Hate". In our crazy mixed-up world it must be made even more apparent that membership stands for that phrase in a realistic way. I am "agin" changing the name for our newly integrated family.

Ted Inglis Portsmouth.

Lions are not lions, Round Table'ers are not knights, and very few Freemasons are masons, and I don't see that Toc H is any more peculiar a title. Any other name would have to be explained, and to suggest changing it is a negative approach to a very real problem. Toc H is far better known, and blessed, than we sometimes think.

The answer is to ensure that we are known for what we are, for what we do, and for what we hope to do in the future. Get rid, once and for all, of the idea that we must shun publicity. Let our light so shine that people want to know what charges the batteries. It is up to every one of us to publicise Toc H by talking about it, by making sure that the local press is invited to any job or project we undertake, and by missing no opportunity of inviting a visitor to our meetings. Every outside speaker is a "possible"; if the business he hears before his talk is of interest, he will talk about it to his friends.

Forget this nonsense about "changing" to attract young people. We are getting young people without any difficulty, and without changing anything—including Light—but the important thing is to keep them, by making sure we are worth knowing and that what we offer is worth having in Branch or branch!

Harry Brier

Huddersfield.

Why not "The Open Community Household"? This would still stand for Toc H.

Phyllis W. Wolfe

London, N.W.S.

. . . there are more letters overleaf

letters continued

We're all german jews

Your first words in "Viewpoint" in August were, "I don't know whether I'm an anarchist at heart....". If this is a question, I should say you are. How anyone who is a member of Toc H can express such views, is just beyond me.

Surely when viewing the recent students' "punch-ups" and utter disrespect for all order and property, and their neglect of their own persons, one must know that somehow the wrong people have got into our universities. What right have they to talk about altering society? They have not earned a penny yet. What have they given to society? Nothing is sacred to them except the preservation of their own skins. Some would not protect their own mothers and sisters if the need arose.

I am 71, and no doubt you will not print this letter, but I have had my say.

Carrie C. Renmant

Eastleigh, Hants.

I think the article, "We're all german jews" is the most misguided balderdash it has been my misfortune to read for a long time. Too H was born in a holocaust of blood and death against one of the vilest nations that Europe has produced. No amount of Too H doctrine will change them.

As for your sympathies with revolting students in France and England, what of the spirit of Toc H do they display? Having contributed nothing to the welfare or security of our country—pacifists at heart and every-

body at fault but themselves, a disgrace to those who died that we might live in freedom's light.

I sincerely hope that your sentiments are not widely shared by Toc H members.

W. A. Noble

Ashford, Kent.

But I always thought that Toc H stood for "To Conquer Hate".—Editor

The Second Sentence

At the Croydon Centre, you may rest assured, every effort is made to persuade the prison or Borstal from which a man comes, and the Ministry of Social Security, to provide the clothing to which he is entitled. None-theless a number come to us, direct from sleeping rough, in the clothes they stand up in. Self respect is an essential element in rehabilitation. A pair of prisonas can be an aid to a man's sense of dignity, apart from being a relief both for the spects and the person washing them. And a shape of socks may be an essential pressure of the same of socks may be an essential pressure of the same of socks and the person washing them.

A number of people both side and outside Toc H have already countries and abought that some Branches, who have and abought that some Branches, who have a concern or not, might like the opportunity of associating themselves with what is being done at the Croydon Centre. Cheques, for not more than two guineas, I would think, should be made out to "the Croydon Toc H Centre House Fund", and sent to Doug Whiting, 11 Sefton Road, Croydon. The money will be used for essential clothing and recreational facilities for ex-prisoners staying at the Centre. A copy of the annual accounts will be sent to every donating Branch or other unit.

Simon Allard

Warden, Croydon Centre.

Hovis

the golden hearted taste





TOC H DOWN A HOLE

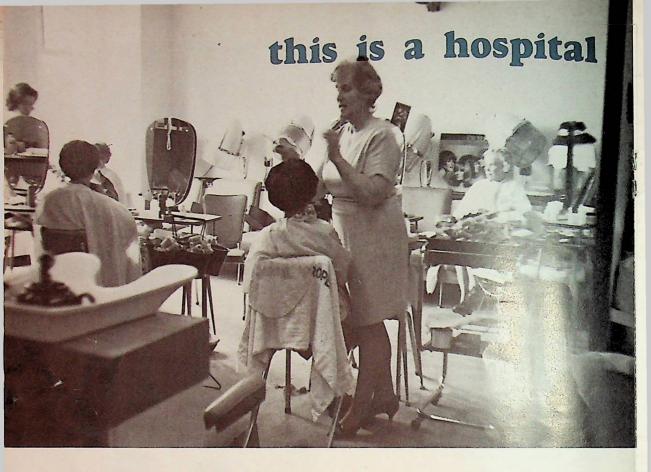
The Coal Ole club at the Croydon Centre to be precise—where couples sit with their feet up on the tables shaking their helds and snapping their fingers in time with the music. There's no room to shake their lege—the floor is too crowded. The usic is thumping out loud and strong, acking the already hot and smoky atmosphere seem like a blast furnace.

In these surroundings Simon Allard and his team bring Toc H to today's so called disturbed generation.

photographs by Bob Broeder







What image does a mental hospital conjure up for you? If you are as unused to them as I am you probably imagine a great monstrosity of a building, with ugly menacing towers, front gates surrounded by mist, and attendants with biceps like Henry Cooper. If so, you are in for a shock.

At Napsbury Mental Hospital, just three miles from the centre of St. Albans and situated in about 130 acres of pleasant parkland, the atmosphere is more akin to that of a smoothly running business venture than that of a hospital. Because this is the hospital which has pioneered and become the prototype for a highly successful rehabilitation scheme for its patients.

The "bureau", as the rehabilitation nerve centre is called, was formed in 1959 to streamline the activities of the departments connected with treatment and after care, so that patients requiring pre-discharge adjustment could receive the finest possible consideration.

At Napsbury, rehabilitation has always been regarded as an integral part of treatment, and the staff are most concerned to ensure that it does not become, as they carefully word it in their handbook, "a habitual part of hospital existence, unrelated to treatment or a realistic goal of returning to normal life".

How does it work? Each week a senior committee consisting of the Medical Superintendent (Dr. James Patterson), the Head of nursing services, Treasurer, Head Occupational Therapist, Head Psychiatric Social Worker, Industrial Manager and Head of the bureau meet under the direction of Dr. Tom Farewell, Medical Officer in charge of the bureau. They discuss and agree policy for the whole scheme. And it is here that the talk differs from that in other hospitals, because they consider such matters as material shortages, production figures, work absenteeism, stock control and wastage allowances, rather than those one would expect them to discuss. The bureau, managed by Brendan Morgan, a

where the "hokey cokey" is part of the treatment

This special feature describing the rehabilitation of mental patients was prepared by Huw Gibbs after we had been told of the success story of the team at Napsbury Hospital, near St. Albans. As Mental Health Year draws to a close it is good to remind ourselves of the work that is going on without a break day after day in mental hospitals all over the country.

fully qualified mental nurse, is really a personnel and welfare office for all those patients, at present about 1,200, who are undergoing rehabilitation.

The bureau receives lists of vacant posts from the Ministry of Labour and the staff speak with and visit neighbouring employers, assist with pay deductions and tax problems for those working outside, and regularly access the capabilities of patients placed in Their care. There are workshops within the grounds which are toured so that up-to-date information as to the progress of the workers can be brought to the committee. Regular centact is maintained with employers who can visit the hospital and be assured of its immediate attention to cases of unpunctuality, relapse, truculence and so on. There are three telephones so that employers seeking advice or assistance experience no delay in reaching the bureau.

It is in the grounds, and particularly in the various workshops, that Napsbury is so unlike other hospitals. When you enter the "farm factory workshop" area, rebuilt by patients from derelict farm buildings, you are immediately caught up in efficient assembly lines, jig-making, and all the clutter of a busy factory. Nurses in civilian clothes and overalls work alongside patients, and everywhere there is intense concentration on the job in hand. Charles Hoyle, the Industrial Manager, runs this section of the hospital, and it is he who plans the jobs undertaken by the patients, and the price fixing for work on contract. The tasks are not simple ones, like threading beads, but complex assemblies demanding skill and training. Tubular steel sun beds and deck chairs are produced from raw material; metal TV stands with complicated steel bending are made in one corner while the complete production of a game of bagatelle is controlled from another. "I don't want you to get the idea that we have cheap labour here", stressed Charles Hoyle, "each job we do is

priced according to its market value, and we have very few advantages over commercial firms. For example, our material wastage is naturally higher than it would be outside."

Even when a light bulb was shattered just over my head by a well aimed mallet, showering me and several workers with glass, I was the only one agitated, none of the workers looked up from their benches.

No matter where you go, whether to Sister Mary Hunter who supervises an assembly line of men and women stitching and packing canvas seats, to the section where a large and intricate racing car game is produced, or to the carpentry workshop where Bert Holgate and Charge Nurse Ellis supervise the production of some very fine pieces of furniture indeed, made entirely by patients, the atmosphere is the same—a quiet, well-ordered dedication to the job that many employers would envy.

Lathe wanted

But Dr. Tom Farewell insists that even more could be done. I asked him what other jobs he thought could be tackled in the hospital workshops. "I have never understood," he said, "how normal intelligent people can perform, day after day, repetitive tasks demanding no skill. These are the jobs that can be done here, quickly and well, if we can only convince people of our need." He instanced simple circuit wiring, work they already do, but there is capacity for more. "What we are now looking for is an electronics expert, who would be prepared to join the staff and supervise this work. Once we had him there is a big opening for electrical wiring here," he said. Another desperate need is an automatic lathe to enlarge the scope of the "farm workshop". "It doesn't have to be new," pleaded Charles Hoyle, "but we can't even afford a second hand one at the moment. If the article you're going to write can produce



an auto, you can come again!"

All this is in striking contrast with the occupational therapy department run by quietly spoken Alison Wheeler and her helpers. There is a workshop here too, but taped music and patients sitting, working on small plastic assemblies, create a completely different atmosphere. Outside from a record player came the "hokey cokey" and patients were being encouraged to join a social session. "Our greatest difficulty is getting them to be sociable," Alison said, "and these sessions help enormously". When I left the patients were being encouraged to dance to a catchy pop number.

Yes, Napsbury is certainly different. With its tree-lined walks, putting green, splendid gardens where patients often help, its wards and hostels named after trees—Elm, Ash, Juniper, Laburnum. And the sight of a senior doctor with happy concentration, busily derusting a metal tube on a machine constructed by a patient is one I shall nover forget.

Acacia hostel is where patients who work outside five and have their meals. It has 60 neat beds, comfortable lounger and victors' rooms. Mirrors are strategies y placed in rooms and corridors—to help wants regin a pride in their appearance. A spent there are 50 men and 30 women in the moon and ployment outside the host at

The hospital recognises that the burger service has its limitations. They envisage as the next step a sheltered workshop with patients working alongside attendants bur the workshop and living quarters to be in an open residential and industrial area. Once this is realised the break with the closed and unrealistic life of a mental hospital would be complete. "Napsbury gears itself to the needs of normal living, and not the other way round," Brendan Morgan told me.

As I left I thought of my original concept of mental institutions and couldn't help recalling that old asylum joke about a patient who was sitting in the middle of a lawn holding out a fishing rod. A visitor strolled across to him and asked, patronisingly, "How many have you caught today, Jim?" With a smile Jim replied, "You're the third this morning!"

TOP. Nimble fingers and skilled needlework produce an eye-catching seat for deckchairs.

CENTRE. One of the comfortable lounges in the Acacia Hostel.

BOTTOM. The factory area which so desperately needs an automatic lathe to increase its chances of securing work for patients nearing full recovery. Is there a Branch that will take on this project?

Photos: Huw Gibbs

a book to start you thinking

Robert Gibson, Associate Vicar of All Hallows, reviews Bob Knight's new book, An Honest Test.

In a recent interview on T.V. Canon Collins was asked by Robert Robinson what he meant by claiming that a Christian to-day must also be an agnostic. He answered that while he personally believed in the great doctrines of the Christian faith there was alongside this belief a question mark, a degree of honest doubt. In his recent book An Honest Test Bob Knight has no doubt chosen his title with the Honest to God debate in mind. We live to-day in an age of honest doubt, a shaking of the foundations of the faith of the fathers, an age in which the orthodox faith and the form of the church are being questioned and often rejected.

An Honest Test speaks to this situation. The fruit of many years' hard labour in the field of thought and action, the work of a convisced believer, who has tested his belief in the combouing ministry of the church and of Too M. An Honest Test is a series of working panets to start you thinking about the rolescence of the faith for to-day. The answer lies the Person and Ministry of Jesus Child As I read on, the words of Canon M.A.C. Warren in his review of Honest to God, came to mind; "Hold only to Christ and for the rest be totally uncommitted", or George Mac-Leod's comment that the greatest contribution that Jesus made to religion was to do away with it.

The aim of An Honest Test is to start you thinking. It is the work of a minister of Christ, who is convinced that whatever the future may hold both for Toc H and for the reader, if there is to be any meaningful existence, if we are to have a dynamic to live by that will truly satisfy our deepest needs, we have to take into account the fact of Jesus Christ's existence and relate this to our own way of living.

Toc H is essentially a Movement based on this belief, at its best a Christlike response to the world and its needs. Too often Christians have failed to present a Christlike image to the world. They have become too obsessed with internal problems of church order or of orthodoxy and have forgotten that the essential ministry of the church is a ministry of service, a ministry that can be joyfully shared by believer and non-believer, if both are inspired by the hunger and thirst after righteousness of which Our Lord spoke, sharing a common compassion for those in need and a real desire to serve the community

in which they are set.

Bob Knight is to be thanked for this personal testimony of his own faith, hammered out on the anvil of his own personal experience. He has provided us all with a document, which we can apply to our own particular situations, which will help us to come to terms with ourselves, our fellows and the society of which we are part. As Christians we are called to share together a common way. An Honest Test aids us in our endeavours to chart that way. Perhaps it can best be summed up in the words of that great prayer of St. Patrick:

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.



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Note: An Honest Test by Bob Knight is obtainable from Toc H Publications Dept., 15 Trinity Square London E.C.3. Price 2s 6d, plus 6d postage.

newspoint

Checkpoint three brings a touch of comfort



The crew of Checkpoint Three. L to R: Ted Wright (Potters Bar), Syd. Austin (Whetstone & Finchley), Jack Holmes (Potters Bar), Joe Powell (Rotary & M S Barnet), Jack Weber (Whetstone & Finchley) and two Barnet Branch supporters.

A report from North London

When a hardy few from certain North London Branches, aided by wives and friends, decided to help with the running of the Multiple Sclerosis night charity walk in Trent Park, Cockfosters, on September 7-8, there was no thought of the particular checkpoint where their effort would be centred. After they had been allocated Check Point Three, the appropriateness of this venue seemed both to lighten the night's work and increase its worth.

Apart from marking the record cards of walkers round the five-mile circuit, Check Point Three had to patrol the most hazardous part of the walk, round the wooded border of the lovely lake in the centre of the park. The September mist hid the moon more often than not, but no-one fell into the water, and though the dawn seemed to take a long time to come, the discomforts of the night vanished with it, and in retrospect it was an experience to be remembered rather than forgotten.

Only two names need be mentioned: Cliff Greatrex, of Potters Bar, in his sixties but hardier than the rest of us, who walked over 15 miles and collected over £21 from his sponsors. And Ted

Wright, from the same Branch, whose recent stay in hospital after a heart attack did not prevent him from pitching a tent for our comfort in the night, nor from taking over the daytime stint with others from his Branch so that the night patrols could get to bed.

The torch-lights moving in little patches through the darkness; the light-heartedness of youthful walkers and the more dogged persistence of their elders; the whole pattern of those with limbs to serve them using these limbs to aid others less fortunate, through the night and half a day; all this was heart-warming stuff which helps to make a reality of dreams. The future reality in this case is a projected special home in Barnet for young people struck down by multiple sclerosis, to which the walkers on this occasion contributed over £2,300 through their sponsors.

In his letter of thanks the Secretary of the Barnet Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society also extended his congratulations on the check point—"quite the most luxurious and lavish on the circuit". The walkers enjoyed coming into its bright lights—and why not be hardy in as much comfort as possible?

Sale Lasts Three Days

by Edith Osborne

For their special effort this year the Chippenham Branch of the Toc H Women's Association organised a mammoth sale which lasted three days. The Branch was lent a double-fronted shop for a week and members spent the first two days arranging the goods they had been collecting for weeks. Among the goods on display were bedsteads, television sets, household ware, secondhand clothes of good quality, curios and jewellery. At the back of the shop there was a complete iumble sale. The premises were thronged with customers throughout the three days and almost everything was sold. Coping with a shop due for demolition and unloading goods in a road marked with double sailow lines were just two of the obsesses we had to overcome. But, than a to longsuffering friends, husbanas with cars, and a genial traffic warden who turned a blind eye, we were able to sand the sum of £100 to Headquarters.

ROUP IN LESOTHO

The formation of a new mixed group at Maseru in Lesotho (formerly Basutoland) is announced. The new group is inter-racial and includes in its membership two Africans, three South Africans and two English people. Their principal job is at the leper settlement in nearby Botsabelo.

TOCH TO FREE WALES?

Jumble sales are notoriously productive of funny stories no less than finance. At the Toc H Centre in Cardiff they are laughing a little ruefully over one recent offer of "some tins of Epsom salts". Now they want to find somebody who really needs 200 ½lb. tins of this invaluable commodity. Any reasonable offer accepted but not sold loose.

The tale of seven tots and a toy tram

You have to queue for everything these days. Even a miniature tram has more grown-ups waiting than us kids. Now what could they possibly want with a miniature tram of all things? They've only promised us a ride so that they can go on it themselves. Will they never grow up.-A pensive little group of children from the Thornwick Home in London stand with their Toc H friends from the Women's Branch at Eastbourne patiently waiting for the children's tram to



Photo: Fastbourne Gazette & Herald

"This is what makes a good Aranch."

say West Essex members.

Efficient Branch officers are the most important requirement of a good Toc H Branch, according to the report of a competition recently organised by the West Essex Joint District.

In an attempt to find an answer to the question: "What makes a good Branch?" the District Team supplied each member and probationer with a entrance form with a list of 24 suggested qualities from which they were invited to choose 12 as being the most important, and to place them in order of merit. "Over 100 members had some fun in entering," says the report, compiled by Norman Chidley, District Chairman. "What, however, is more important is that these members all spent a fair time discussing the question and making up their own minds about it".

The section of the form dealing with Branch officers was designed to offer a choice between a team on the one hand and a single dominant personality on the other. "The overwhelming verdict," says the report, "is that a team is necessary".

Very nearly as important, according to the competitors, was a strong belief

in the purpose of Toc H, together with enthusiasm for all that it means. And the necessity of a strong Christian framework was stressed.

Among Branch activities "an interesting programme" scored the most marks by a comfortable margin, with, says the report, "a good sense of humour, weekly meetings, fairminded discussion, interesting speakers, participation in local affairs and lively social life following in that order".

"Rather surprisingly," comments the report, "jobs received low position marks. A clear verdict is, however, given that a corporate job that involves all members is more important than having plenty of individual Branch jobs."

The need for regular attendance by all members received many votes. Also frequently mentioned was the necessity for a steady influx of new members to maintain Branch strength and to introduce new ideas.

What makes a good Branch? The Branches in West Essex apparently think that the keynotes are efficiency and a belief in the purpose of Toc H. What do other Branches think?

A SELL-OUT FOR GORLESTON WOMEN

The Gorleston Branch of Toc H Women's Association opened a shop in the Market Place, Great Yarmouth, for two days during August. A variety of goods were on sale including home made preserves and cakes, knitted and fancy goods. By the time the shop closed practically everything had been sold.

The result? £60 for the Family Purse, £30 for LEPRA and £30 for the Abbeyfield Society towards the equipment for a house they recently purchased in the neighbourhood.

CRUISE FOR RED CROSS HOME RESIDENTS

Largs Toc H recently arranged a successful boat trip to Millport for residents of Largs Red Cross House. Seventeen residents took part, eight of whom were in wheelchairs. An ambulance shuttle service and a number of private cars conveyed residents to and from the pier. The Branch pay special tribute to the co-operation and help received from the captains, officers and crews of the two vessels used for the outing.

Toc H sends two boys to sea

by Harold Bayliss

The idea of sending two boys for a week aboard S.S. Foudroyant came to me whilst on holiday at Portsmouth earlier this year, when I visited the old wooden-walled vessel now used as a training ship by youth organisations.

How to choose the boys was the problem. I eventually decided to send a paragraph to the local press inviting boys to write an essay on "Why I am interested in the navy". Both the editor and news editor of *The Hereford Times* were most co-operative and finally two boys were chosen. One, John Shenton, attends the Cathedral School. Hereford, and the other.

Norman Latymer, is a pupil at Bodenham Manor School, Herefordshire.

They were invited to an interview at the Toc H room and were asked about their concern with the navy. Norman told us of his particular interest in sailing, and John said that he very much hoped to join the Royal Navy.

I must pay tribute to the way in which members of Hereford Branch accepted the idea and helped it to become a reality. A keen interest was also shown by the Captain Superintendant of the Foudroyant, Capt. A. Langley, R.N. (Retd.). Milton & Eastney Toc H helped with transport.



Norman Latymer is nearest to the camera in this picture taken during one of the sailing sessions.

FAMOUS DESIGNER TALKS AT DOR KNAP

Sir Gordon Russell, a designer with an international reputation for the highest standards, will be visiting Dor Knap at the end of November to speak to a group who will be discussing the effects of physical surroundings on our lives. The weekend entitled "Architecture and Design", is to be held from November 29—December 1.

According to Tony Norman Projects Co-ordinator and leader of the party "it will not be highly technical in spite of the title and is primarily intended for men and women under 30, although anybody interested in the subject is welcome to apply". Further details can be obtained from Tony Norman at S.E. Regional Office. Crutched Friars House, London E.C.3.

Volunteer or pioneer?

For the first time ever it is believed, a 17-year-old girl addressed the congregation from the pulpit of a centuries old church at Pocklington, Yorkshire. She is Jane Field, a Toc H Volunteer, who during her holidays worked at a home for spastics in Croydon and took part in the playgroup project for Pakistani children in Bradford. It was about this latter project that she spoke.

Women's Association Area Secretary Molly Oxenford and Branch Treasurer Mrs. Dora Field read the lessons, and the Branch Padre, Canon Graham Christie, gave the epilogue. The service was designed to stress the link between the church and social service, particularly in the field of youth work.

Mixed bathing at the deep end! }

We hear that the South Western Area weekend at Westward Ho! on September 28/29 was a livelier affair than ever this year. Whether this was due to the fact that for the first time it was a Joint weekend, or to the visit of the Rt. Hon. Jeremy Thorpe, M.P., to talk on the future of the South West, is (and was) a debatable point but even the customary westerly gale could not compete with some of the spontaneous eloquence from the floor.

The main theme of the weekend was "Other Expressions of Toc H", introduced and summed up by Colin Campbell, Public Relations Secretary, but given a thorough airing in many group discussions both formal and informal. From the high quality and content of the comments by the various group chairmen and chairwomen in their public reports it was obvious that there is a lively future for Toc H in the South West.

The spirit of the whole weekend is perhaps summed up in the opening words of Jeremy Thorpe who, as befits a good politician, had evidently had his ear to the ground as soon as he arrived. "I hear that this is the first occasion on which your women members have joined you at this conference. I also hear that one of your male members was so excited by this that he lost his teeth in the deep end of the swimming pool and that a 20 year old young lady had to dive in to retrieve them for him."



This is a view when to look behind is fatal. Gardware who have been faced with clearing a weed-filled garden will know what we mean this project, accordate on by Toe H Volunteers from Cardiff, was to tidy up the garden at Cowbridge Home Veest for mothers and babies. In the foreground 1 to 8: Sally Tobin, Stephen Phillips and Charyl Gibbs. Photo: South Wales Echo.

Mrs. Mary Simpson, aged 95, is Barkingside Branch's favourite film star. She was the first person to benefit from the flashing light system operated by the Branch, and was chosen by Pathé Newsreel to explain the scheme in her own home during a film feature completed recently. Photo: Recorder Review.

picture point







Eleven young people, backed by Derby men's Branch, recently completed a successful project with the Derby Centre for the mentally handicopped. Christopher Drinkwater (17) one of those taking part told the Evening Telegraph: "when I first came I saw them as people whom I did not know. It was a new experience and I just took it as it came, now I see them as friends." Photo: Derby Evening Telegraph.

faith makes things fall into place

Jack Osborne is Secretary of the Christchurch with Southbourne Branch of Toc H and the Bournemouth and District Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society, started by the Toc H Branch, at a time when it had less than ten active members. In this article, which originally appeared in The M S News, Jack writes about the setting up of a Day Care Centre for multiple sclerotics.

The fabric of the building was in good condition, and it contained a nearly new hot water gas-fired central heating system in the main hall, with an annexe containing two toilets and a "kitchen" (with draining board right next to a toilet door!) and a small outside toilet. There was also space at the side for a garage for our minibus. The floors were all level, with one step up to the front porch (now replaced by a concrete ramp). The main hall had a bay at the street end, containing dozens of coat hooks.

It was decided at the outset to develop the premises as a Day Care Centre. One of our members, whose wife had died of M.S. the previous year, ripped out all the coat hangers from the bay and converted this into a grand kitchen with a buffet counter, open to the main hall. We installed an electric cooker, a 20-gallon water heater, and sink and draining board, cupboards, etc.

One of the two inside toilets was modified for wheel-chairs by widening the doorway; the other was left for walking cases. The outside toilet was scrapped, the party wall was removed, and the space was incorporated with the old "kitchen" to accommodate a concrete-floored shower unit and a changing cubicle, complete with special chair for bathing, and a doctor's consulting couch for undressing bathers. We also had a special hairdressing basin installed in the corner.

We started our all-day sessions on the last Thursday in March, 1967, and we now cope with up to 30 members each week; this is pretty well saturation point, but we are busy getting together a second team of volunteers to open all day on Tuesday as well, for a different set of patients for which we have already a waiting list.

Members are collected from home and start arriving at the Centre spon after 10 a.m., being greeted with a cup alleoffee. Bathing sessions are soon in full swing, the shower unit being staffed by volume as retired nurses and helpers. This is by far an amost popular amenity of the Cention there include chiropody, hairdressing, and a well-stocked library. A three-course lunch is solved at 2s. 6d. a head, and entertainment in the form of slide and film shows, talks and demonstrations, is laid on for the aiternoon. We even had Ken Dodd look in for a while recently while he was appearing at a local theatre. The shower unit is in use during the afternoons also.

The Centre has opened up a new world for those who attend it. It also, of course, gives their partners the chance of a few hours "off duty", knowing that the patients are in friendly and experienced hands. Transport plays a big part in the success of the venture, and here our minibus, purchased with funds raised by our own members plus donations from several organisations and individuals, and the ambulance with powered lift (recently presented by the Bournemouth Round Table), not to mention car driver volunteers, prove their worth.

Our Centre is the envy of all who visit it, and I see no reason why every M.S. Branch should not go all out to establish one for their members: remember, it is far easier to get support, both in cash and in practical help, if folks can see what is being done, rather than being asked to subscribe to an abstract fund. All you need is bags of faith, and the means of making your needs known to the right people. You will find the rest just falls into place.

On this page we feature two of the many play schemes with which Toc II was involved this summer, one in Bristol and one in Glasgow. Below we print extracts from a letter written by Maureen Dowdall, one of the volunteers who helped run the Glasgow Adventure Playgrounds Association's Play in the Parks scheme.



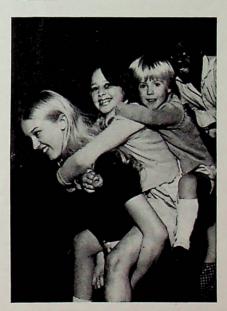
just ordinary kids!

The work was great, but tiring. The kids were gorgeous, if a little dirty at times, but not nearly as bad as we had been led to expect. They were just ordinary kids—perhaps a little more affectionate, but quite normal. There were about 240 to 270 of them and 40 of us, so we divided into groups. Gill, Pip and I had about 24. We took them to parks in special hired buses and kept them amused with childish games (we enjoyed these!). Our group had a thing about water. Everywhere we went it was off with their clothes and into the pond! When it rained, which wasn't often, we kept them in a hall, painting, etc.

They came from mixed backgrounds. One family of eight live in wagons in a scrapyard! One evening one of the mothers invited us round. Their home was tiny, a flat in a tenement block, but beautifully decorated and furnished. There was one bedroom for the parents and the three children, a living room, a tiny kitchen and a tiny toilet (no bath).

They were all fantastic people. The mothers were really genuine and friendly. They didn't appear to resent us at all. They were just grateful for what we were doing for their children. Some of the mothers got together and collected over £15 so that we could take the kids to the sea, but as we couldn't get insurance and the corporation buses wouldn't go outside Glasgow, we took them to a park for the whole day—picnics all round. On the last Thursday the mothers prepared a party for us all. Imagine 250 kids in one hall eating

cakes from paper bags! Then the children gave us a concert, and when they had gone home the mothers had got tea ready for all the volunteers.



Photographs of the Bristol project. Courtesy South West Picture Agency.

the day Gus Honeybun met Miss Nugent and Dolores was given a carrot

by Les Rendell

"Look," said the treasurer. So everyone looked. St. Austell's Branch treasurer stands 6' 6" in his socks, and is always accompanied by his two Alsatians (3' without socks). "Look," he repeated, "we can't continue to run our annual old folk's party with a mere 5s. 8½d. in the bank." After a vote, everyone agreed. "Even if we made it a round sum of 5s. 9d.," said the secretary (a banker), "we'd still be a bit short".

Up jumped Bright Spark, elated: "I know," he gasped, "let's have a jumble sale!" This quite original suggestion was greeted with the enthusiasm it deserved—ten minutes' silence broken only by the scratching of the secretary's quill pen. Then the secretary, having noted the similarity between Bright Spark and Gus Honeybun (a rabbit puppet on local TV) calmly said, "How about Gus?"

After much discussion it was decided that Gus would not fetch much at a jumble sale but might condescend, with the inducement of a juicy lettuce, to open a bazaar. The chairman, who never minces words (the members, perhaps, but not words) thought he would look a bit daft introducing a so-and-so rabbit. He didn't mind a "bird" but drew the line at rabbits.

By a stroke of good fortune the secretary discovered that Miss Eileen Derbyshire (Emily Nugent of "Coronation Street") would be willing to travel to Cornwall, and be introduced by the chairman at the bazaar. ("Jolly good idea of mine," said Bright Spark.)

All hands to the plough, shoulders to the wheel, noses to the grindstone, wives to the knitting needles and treasurer to the bank manager (to negotiate a temporar avardraft). The YMCA lent their new hosts make the stream TV lent Gus (a wow with the kind and Guste female manipulator (a wow with the job-master). Lots of people lent lot as transpared and gave lots of goods (it is not the first there was any intimidation by the tree was and his dogs). The big day arrived, and would 1,500 people!

The chairman introduced Miss Derbyshare (who, with her husband, made the round trip from Manchester especially and solely to attend the bazaar) and Gus introduced himself to Miss Derbyshire, who was presented with a carrot for her TV donkey, Dolores. And at the end even the chairman smiled at the profitable carrot which had brought in a clear £250.

"Iknewit was a good idea," said Bright Spark.

obituary

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

In July: John R. Bunnage (Marches Area), May S. Kemp (Sheringham), Edgar A. Lyle (Southborough). In August: Winifred F. Atkins (Westminster), Sidney E. Coles (Eltham), William G. Cull (Seven Kings), Henry W. Silk (Sevenoaks), George H. Wickens (Maidstone). In September: Herbert Downham (E. Anglia Area), the Rev. Canon Charles Paton, O.B.E. (Central), Col. G. R. Rae (Southern Area), Felix Shepherd (Sevenoaks), Olive Shier (Southill, Weymouth), Maurice H. Simpson (St. Thomas, Exeter), Edgar Watts (Sevenoaks).

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). "Point Three", Toc H, 41 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

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ADVERTISING PENCILS, superb Ball-Pens, Combs, Brushes, etc., gold-stamped Branch name, raise funds quickly, easily. Details—Northern Novelties, Bradford 2.

WORLD UNDERSTANDING through a common language is our aim. As Toc H members you are also vitally interested in understanding others. Why not hear about our way from a local Esperantist? Better still, join a class and learn to speak Esperanto yourself. Details from the Secretary, British Esperanto Association, 140 Holland Park Ave., London, W.11.

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AN HONEST TEST

An important new book by the Padre of TOC H

Bob Knight discusses the significance of the Toc II method in the light of the current state of ferment within the Churches and its importance in the world of today. His book is essential reading for all who wish to understand the deeper purposes of the Movement.

Price—Two Shillings and Sixpence. (Postage Sixpence)

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IN THE PUBLIC EYE

A new Display Kit is now available from Toc H Publications Department, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

Specially prepared to meet a growing demand from Toc H Branches, churches, schools and other organisers of community exhibitions, the kit comprises a set of ten cards, some in colour, measuring 15" x 12".

The cards combine a series of statements with actual photographs of Toc H activities. Used in conjunction with local material they should help to present an overall picture of the Movement.

Price 30/- per set